

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Cancelled without prejudice)

Claim 2. (Cancelled without prejudice)

Claim 3. (Currently amended) A driver golf club having a club head with a heel portion and a toe portion at one terminal end of a shaft wherein said shaft centerline and a plane parallel to the ground and tangent to said club head sole form a lie angle when said club head is at rest and positioned to strike said golf ball;

the mass distribution of said club head being concentrated at said toe and heel;

a club face on said club head operable for striking a golf ball and spanning the area between said heel and said toe of said club head and having a heel to toe bulge defined by a radius, R_R , whose center is square to the face or offset towards said heel, radius R_L , and whose arc is swept from heel to toe of said club face as described in Figure 2;

a lie angle configured to maintain the impact point of said golf ball on said club face when said impact point is off the center of mass, said lie angle which is the angle between the centerline of the shaft and a horizontal plane tangent to the sole of the club being greater than about 60° and wherein the height of the clubface as measured from the top edge to the sole edge at its greatest point is greater than 47 mm (1.85 inches).

Claim 4. (Cancelled without prejudice).

Claim 5. (Cancelled without prejudice).

Claim 6. (Currently amended). A golf club as claimed in Claim 5 3 said lie angle is greater than 60 degrees.

Claim 7. (Original) A golf club as claimed in Claim 6 wherein the length of the shaft measured from the heel end of the sole to the butt end is between 39" and 48".

Claim 8. (Original). A golf club as claimed in Claim 6 wherein the height of the club face as measured from the top edge to the sole edge at its greatest point is greater than 47 mm (1.85 inches).

Claim 9. (Currently amended). A golf club as claimed in Claim 6 wherein a line, ~~Fig.~~ in Figure 2, tangent to the top edge of the club face is tilted upwardly towards the toe at an angle greater than 2 degrees to the horizontal.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) A golf club as claimed in Claim 5 3 wherein the mass distribution of the club head is concentrated in predetermined areas and combined with said preferred lie angle provides an elliptical zone on the face of the club, whose major axis is generally perpendicular to the shaft setup angle and wherein hits in the elliptical zone produce generally the same performance as hits at the center of impact on the face, the shaft setup angle θ β being the angle the club shaft makes to the horizontal as the golfer addresses the ball, and is determined by the length of the club shaft and the vertical height of the butt of the shaft as determined by the hand height of the golfer at setup.

Claim 11. (Currently amended.) A golf club as claimed in Claim 5 3 wherein the mass concentration is higher in the toe and lower in the heel to maximize the moment of inertia about an axis extending parallel to the setup angle plane and passing through the center of gravity of the club head.

Claim 12. (Currently amended). A golf club as claimed in Claim 5 3 with a club face designed with a thickness distribution so as to optimize the hit performance in the said elliptical hit zone.

Claim 13. (New) A driver golf club having a club head with a heel portion and a toe portion at one terminal end of a shaft wherein said shaft centerline and a plane parallel to

the ground and tangent to said club head sole form a lie angle when said club head is at rest the said shaft defining a setup angle with the horizontal plane determined by the shaft length and the hand height of the golfer, when the club is positioned by the golfer to strike the golf ball said setup angle being greater than 45° so that an elliptical mis-hit area is defined on the club face whose major axis is normal to the said shaft setup angle and extends from the center of the clubface upward towards the toe, said lie angle being configured to maintain the impact point of a golf ball on said club face when said impact point is off the center of the face and located in said mis-hit ellipse, said lie angle, which is the angle between the centerline of the shaft and a horizontal plane tangent to the sole of the club being greater than about 60° , and wherein the height of the clubface as measured from the top edge to the sole edge at its greatest point is greater than 47mm (1.85 inches) the said club head mass distribution being concentrated at said toe and heel; and the said clubface thickness configured to optimize ball velocity in the miss ellipse area on the face.

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